AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please delete the paragraph spanning page 104, lines 14-23, through page 105, lines 1-13 and replace it with the following paragraph:

This example describes the isolation and sequencing of nucleic acid molecules encoding feline IL-12 single chain proteins of the present invention.

A. A pBluescript-Linker plasmid was constructed as follows: Two complementary oligonucleotides, 60 nucleotides in length were synthesized. The oligonucleotides were allowed to hybridize to each other in solution producing a double stranded DNA fragment that would serve as a linker between the cDNAs encoding the p40 and p35 subunits of feline IL-12. The sequence of the sense linker was 5' CTGCAGTGGT GGCGGTGGCG GCGGATCTAG AAACTTGCCA ACCCCTACTC CATCCCCGGG 3' (SEQ ID NO:83) and the sequence of the antisense linker was 5' CCCGGGGATG GAGTAGGGGT TGGCAAGTTT CTAGATCCGC CGCCACCGCC ACCACTGCAG 3' (SEQ ID NO:84). Equimolar amounts of sense linker and antisense linker were mixed and heated to 95°C for 10 minutes in a heat block. The heat block containing the samples was removed from the heat source and allowed to cool to room temperature slowly, over a period of 4 hours. Then the hybridized oligonucleotides were digested with *Pst*I and *Sma*I restriction enzymes (available from New England Biolabs, Beverly, MA) and ligated into pBluescript SK^+ vector (available from Stratagene, La Jolla, CA) digested with the same restriction enzymes to produce pBluescript-Linker plasmid. The presence of the linker in the ligated pBluescript-Linker plasmid was confirmed by sequencing conducted as described in Example 1. The pBluescript-Linker plasmid contained DNA coding for the following elements: (1) the last two C-terminal amino acid residues of the p40 subunit (i.e. C,S); (2) the seven amino acid residues of the linker (i.e. GGGGGGS) (SEQ ID NO:110); and (3) the first ten N-terminal amino acid residues of the mature p35 subunit mature protein (i.e. RNLPTPTPSP) (SEQ ID NO:111).